

Three Forks of the Flathead



Wild and Scenic River:
Comprehensive River Management Planning

October 17, 2018

Welcome!

- Pre-meeting Introduction
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
- Comprehensive River Management Plan
- Listening and Learning/Involvement





Core of Designation:

Free Flowing

Water Quality

Outstandingly Remarkable
Values (ORVs)

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act



Status of the Flathead WSR

Already Defined:

- **Boundaries**
- **Classifications**
- **ORVs**



What are ORVs?

River Related or Dependent

Contribute to river function

Existence due to river's presence



River Values- Flathead

All Segments ORVs:

- Fisheries
- Geologic
- Water Quality
- Wildlife
- Recreation
- Historic





Wild

No impoundments

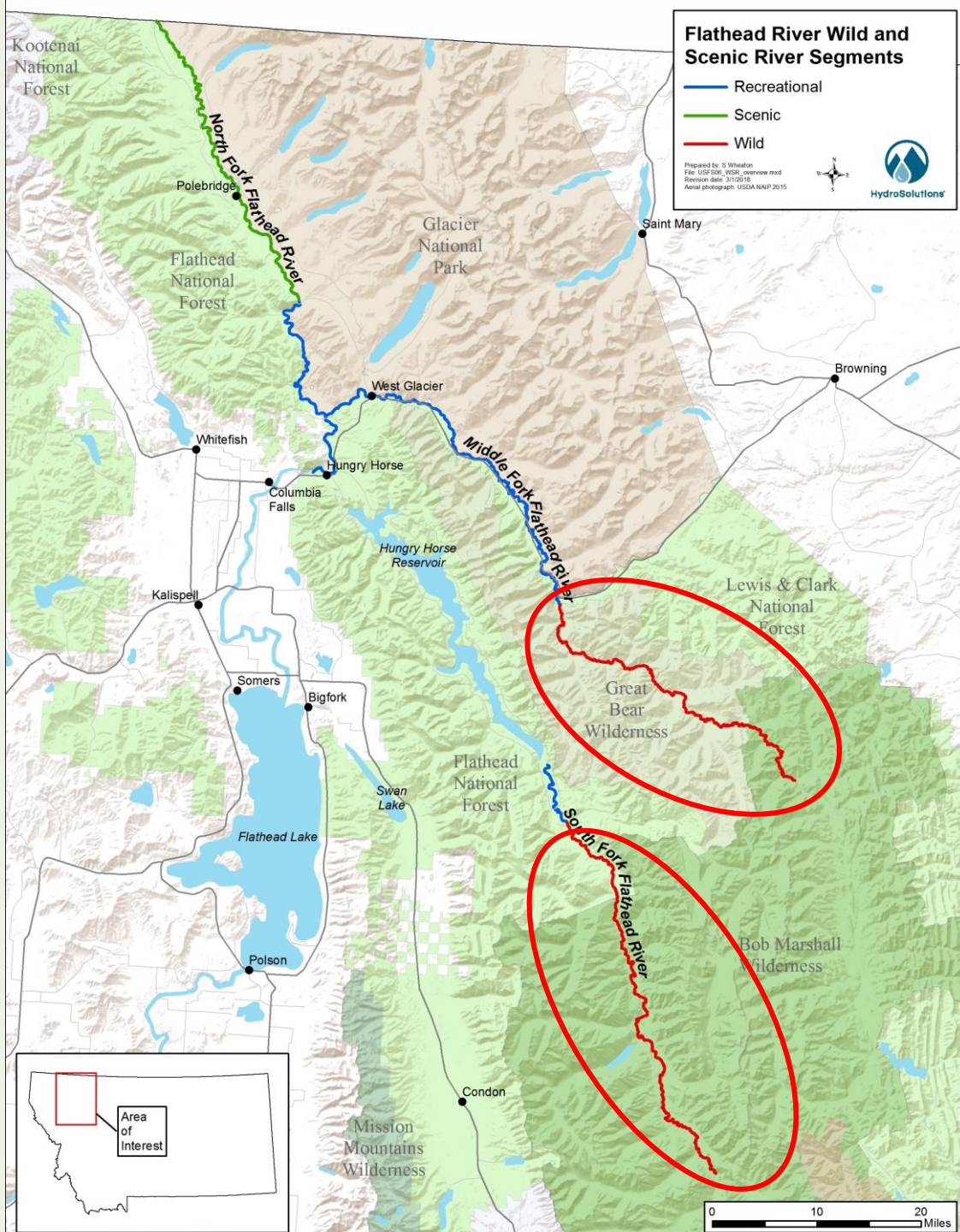
Generally inaccessible
except by trail

Unpolluted

Primitive

WSRA: Section 2: Classifications





Wild

Upper Middle Fork

Upper South Fork



WSRA: Section 2: Classifications

Scenic

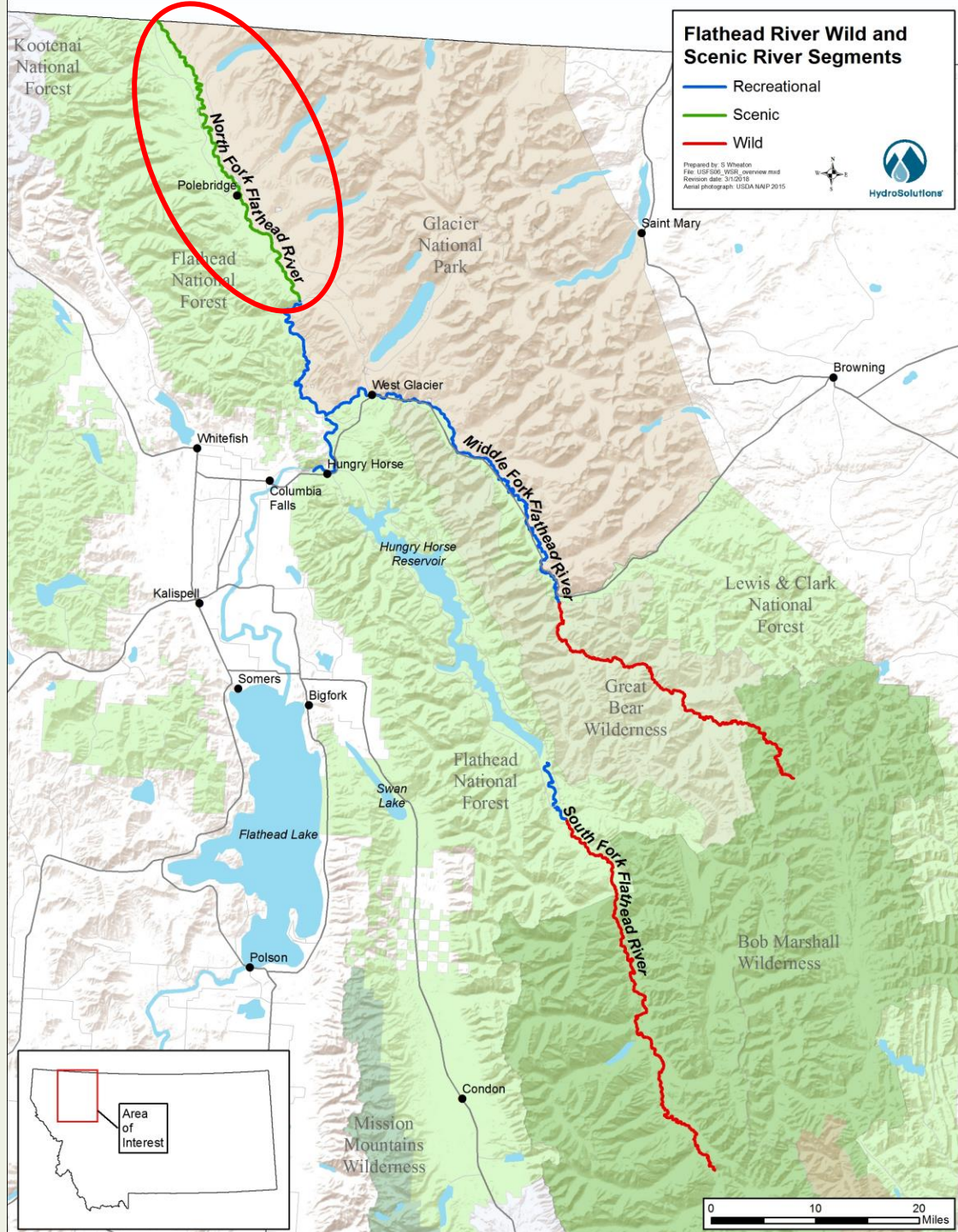
No impoundments

Accessible in places by roads

Shorelines largely undeveloped



S. Bosse



Scenic

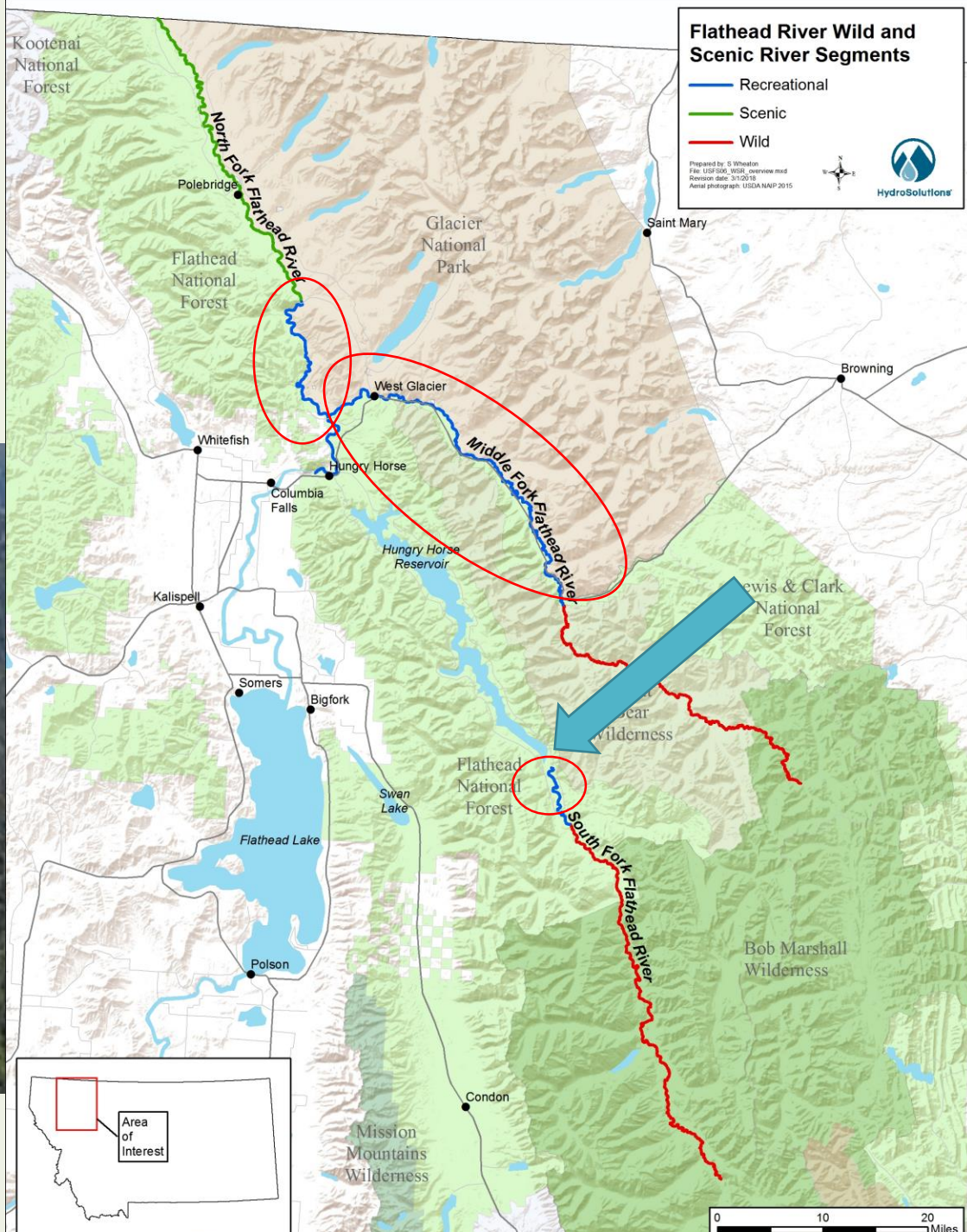
Upper North Fork

WSRA: Section 2 Classifications

Recreational

- May have been impounded or diverted
- Readily accessible by road or rail
- May have developments along shoreline





ection

What about existing dams?
Boundaries



Designation

Where

Classification

What

ORV

Why

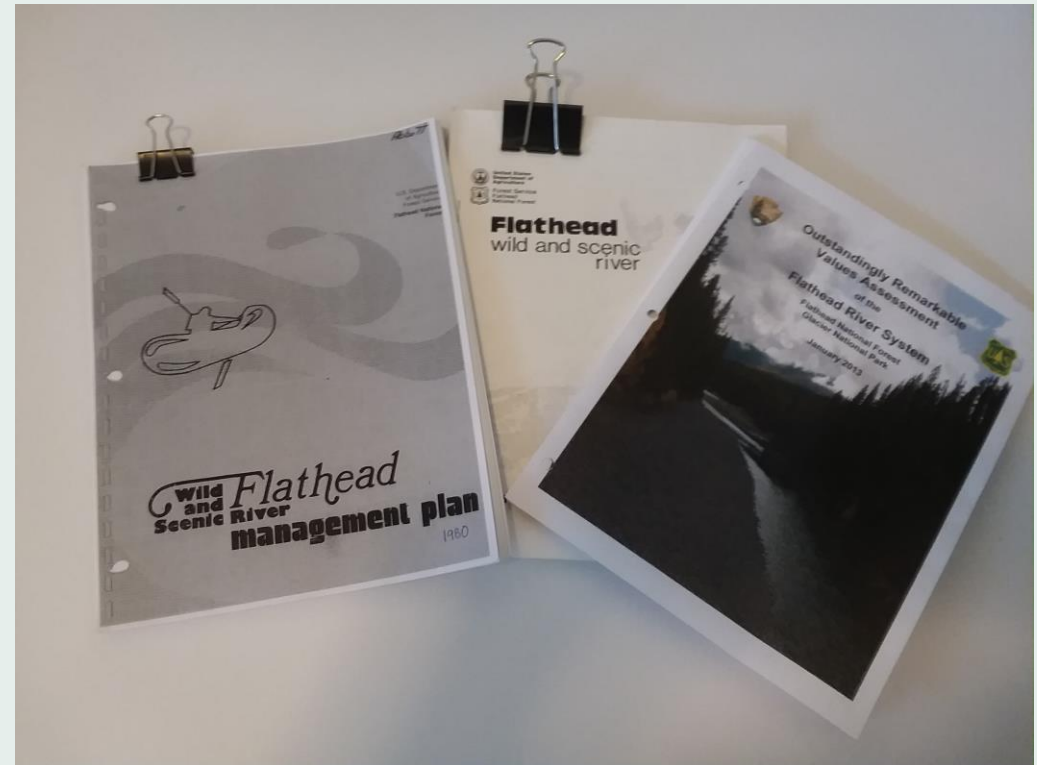
CRMP

How



Where are we with the Flathead?

1980 River Management Plan
1986 Recreation Management
Direction
2010 River Values Review
2013 ORV Report
2017 Forest Plan Revision
2018 WSR 50th Anniversary



WSRA Section 10: Management

PROTECT AND ENHANCE

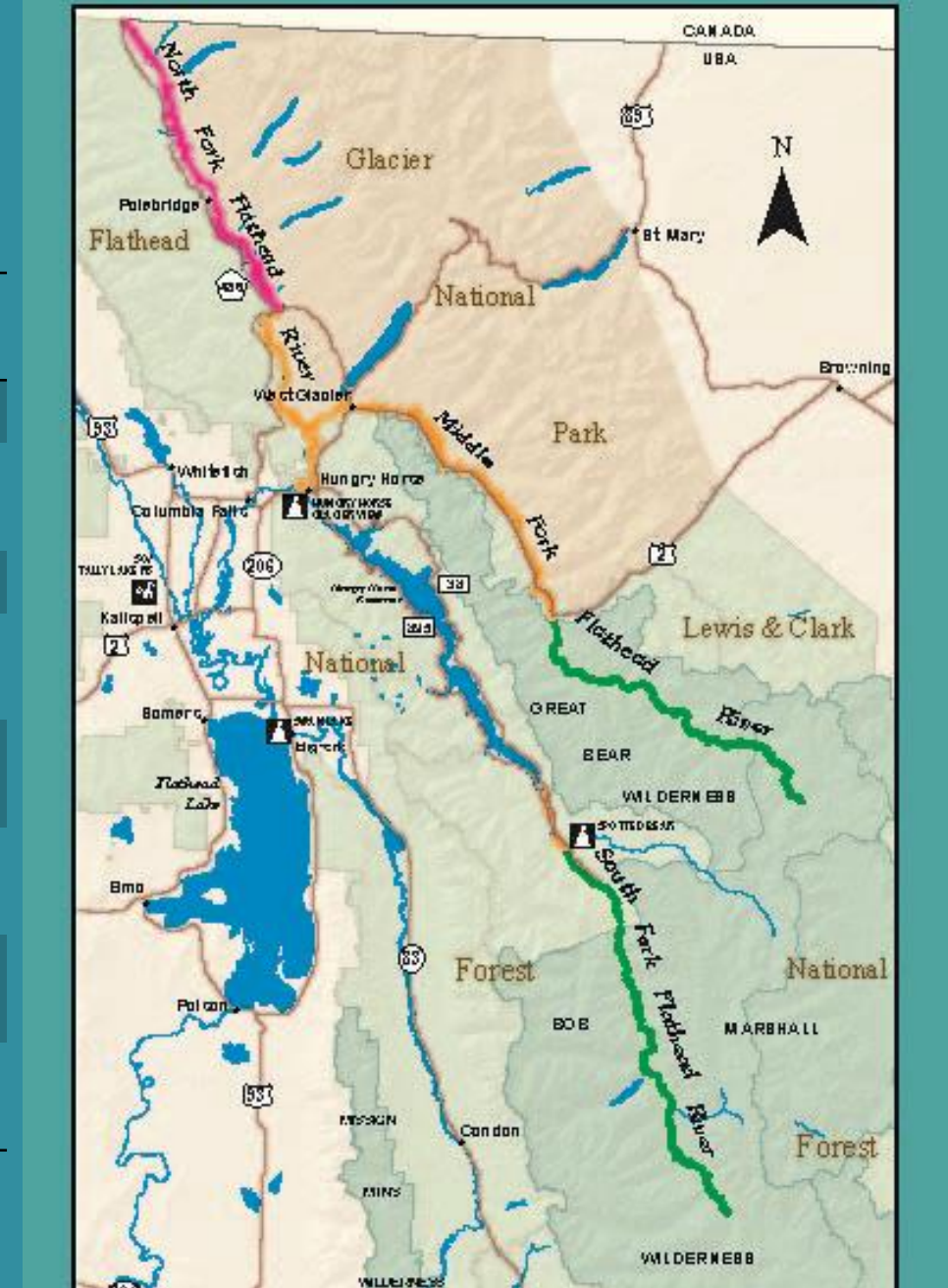


PUBLIC ENJOYMENT



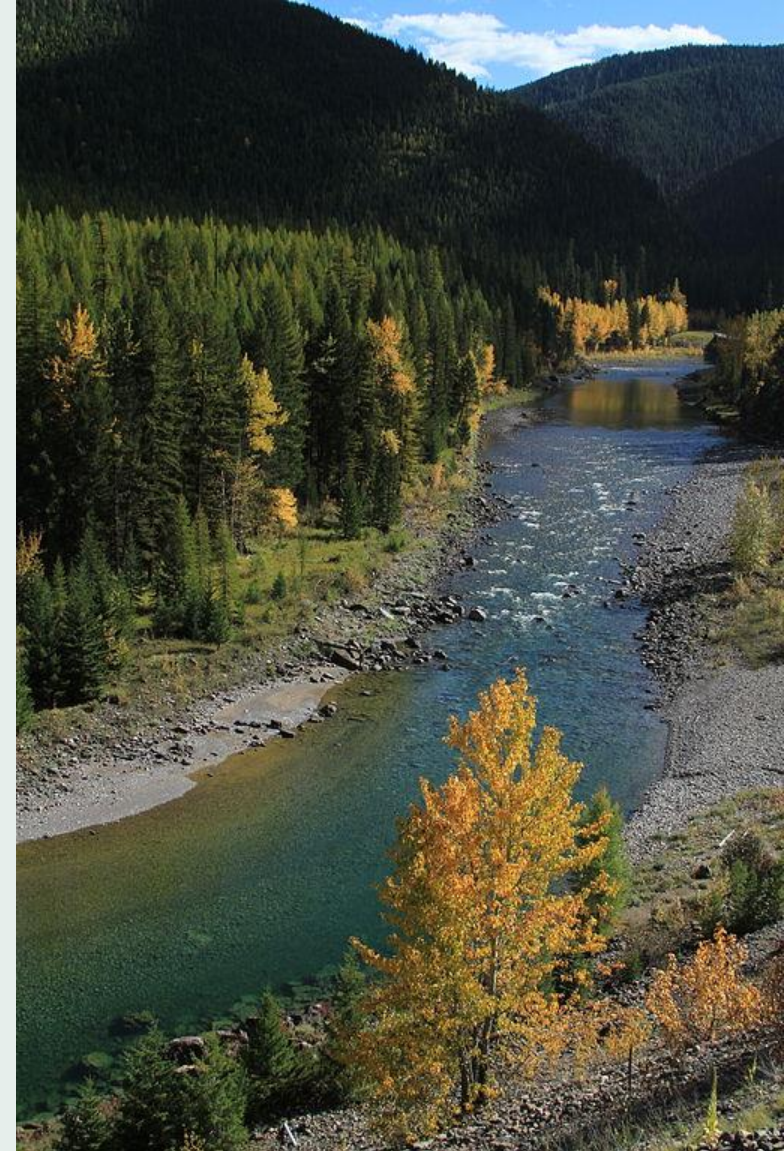
River Segment Overview

River Segments	Upstream Bound	Downstream Bound	Miles
North Fork Scenic	Canada	Camas Bridge	40.7
North Fork Recreational	Camas Bridge	Middle Fork Confluence	17.6
Middle Fork Wild	Headwaters	Bear Creek	46.0
Middle Fork Recreational	Bear Creek	South Fork Confluence	54.0
South Fork Wild (wilderness)	Youngs Creek	Cedar Flats	51.3
South Fork Wild (non-wilderness)	Cedar Flats	Spotted Bear	
South Fork Recreational	Spotted Bear	~Log Landing	8.8
Total Miles:			219



What goes into a CRMP?

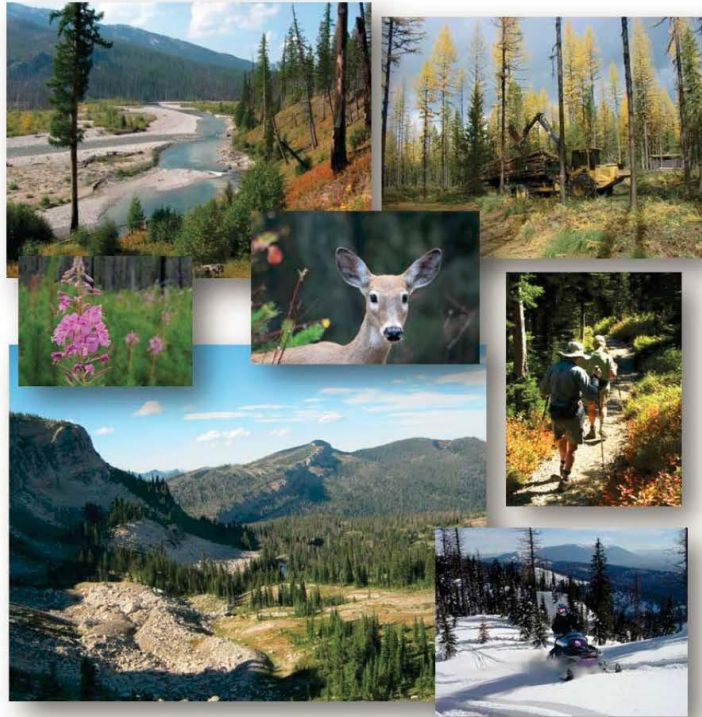
1. Describe the ORVs
2. Define the Goals and Desired Conditions (FF, WQ, ORVs)
3. Address development of lands & facilities
5. Address Water Quality and Instream Flow
6. Reflect a collaborative approach
7. Describe and assign responsibilities (local, state, federal, tribal, partners)
8. Monitoring program



Forest Plan

Flathead National Forest

Flathead, Lake, Lewis and Clark, Lincoln, Missoula, and Powell Counties, Montana



Forest Service

Northern Region

December 2017

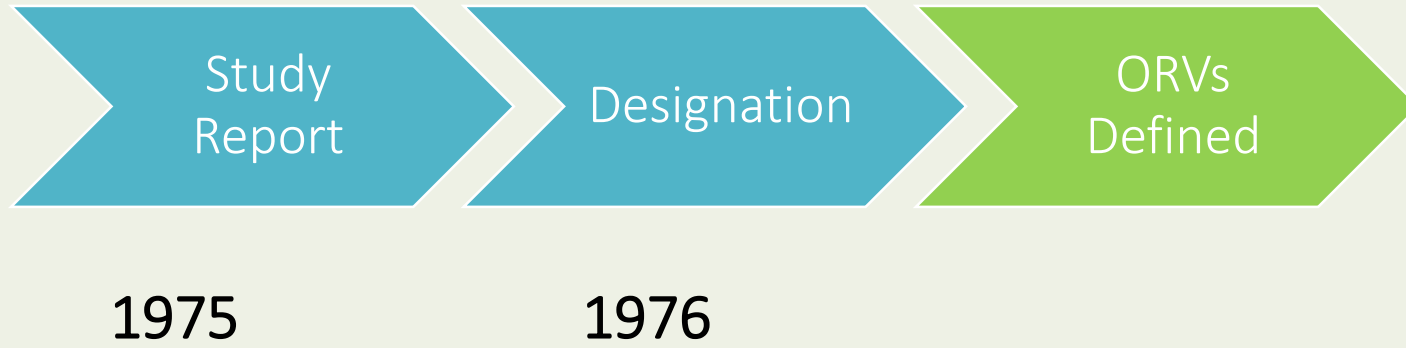
"... for the greatest good of the greatest number for the longest time." —Gifford Pinchot, founding Chief of the Forest Service, 1905

The CRMP will be an amendment to the Forest Plan

	Fisheries	Geology	Water quality	Wildlife	Botany	Recreation	Scenic	Historic	Ethnographic
North Fork (scenic)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
North Fork (recreational)	X	X	X	X		X		X	X
Middle Fork (wild)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Middle Fork (recreational)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
South Fork- wilderness (wild)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
South Fork-non- wilderness (wild)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
South Fork (recreational)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

Flathead Wild and Scenic River segments and Outstandingly Remarkable Value (ORV) Determinations.





What is Baseline for the Flathead WSR?

To achieve a nondegradation standard, the river-administering agency must document baseline resource conditions and monitor changes to these conditions.
-Intent of Section 10(a) WSRA



How do we preserve/ enhance the ORVs?



How do I find out more?

Website

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/flathead/crmp>

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/flathead/home>

Future Meetings:

Update at end of meeting tonight!

Contacts:

Chris Prew:

chrisprew@fs.fed.us

406-758-3538

Janette Turk:

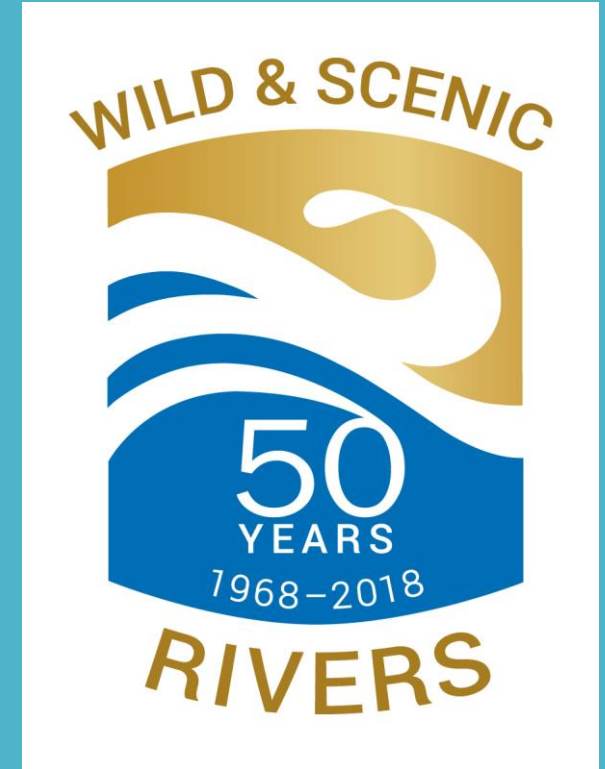
jturk@fs.fed.us



Thank You!



Three Forks of the Flathead: Recreation & Scenery



Wild and Scenic River:
Comprehensive River Management Planning

October 17, 2018



WELCOME !



River Stories:



Tonight's Speakers

Jessica Koteen-

Recreation Specialist



Colter Pence- Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers,
and Trails Program Manager

Tad Wehunt-Special Uses, Recreation, and
Wilderness Program Manager



Autumn Ela, MLA- Landscape Architect

Mary Riddle- Chief of Planning and
Environmental Compliance



Jenn Thomsen- Assistant Professor of Park,
Recreation, and Tourism Management



Introductions

Chris Prew- WSR Program Manager



Gary Danczyk- Staff Officer

Rob Davies- Hungry Horse-Glacier View RD

Scott Snelson- Spotted Bear RD

MJ Crandall- Recreation Staff Officer

Mary Riddle- Chief of Planning and
Environmental Compliance



Paul Austin- Chief Ranger, GNP

Jim Dahlstrom- North Fork District Ranger, GNP



Ground Rules

- be respectful of everyone in the room
- focus on the issue identified for this meeting
- be on time and come prepared
- disagree without being disagreeable
- everyone can participate
- respect the time allowed

Helpful Tip:

Read through the question sheet with your group to start

- How to follow up

Listening and Learning

Group Discussion: CARD COLOR & ROLES

Color	Job	Description
Yellow	Note Taker	Fill in discussion sheet and turn in at end. Try to get main points written down.
Pink	Time Keeper	Encourage people to cover each question – let them know if time is getting short
Green	Fact Checker	If there is a question your group needs help with, track down a specialist or use the fact sheet
Orange	Reporter	Read your group's responses to the rest of the group at the end. Share your group's main concerns and questions

Flathead Wild & Scenic River CRMP

Timeline and Next Steps

River Resource Assessment (January 2019)

Summarizes the need for change and current conditions based on the Gap Analysis, summary of information gathered through the Public Listening Sessions and review of all team specialists (FNF, GNP and HS).

Proposed Action and Scoping Initiated (March 2019)

Comment period on Proposed Action.

Environmental Assessment and Draft CRMP

30-day Comment period on EA.

Draft Decision Notice and Objection Period

Objections can only be filed if you submitted written comments during scoping or on the Environmental Assessment.

Decision and Final CRMP (December 2020)



For more information:

Chris Prew

Flathead National Forest Recreation Program Manager

(406) 758-3538

chrisprew@fs.fed.us

www.fs.usda.gov/flathead

